

The Components of the “Living” Report

Introduction

This report in its entirety is intended to be a living document. The Commission realized that the overall picture of the regional parks, sports, and recreation system’s current stakeholders, shortages, and needs is better represented by an evolving document where a permanent connection with its contributors and authors is a key component of the new regional vision. Listening to and documenting the issues concerning a specific sports governing body or a particular local jurisdiction on a regular basis is a fundamental link that is missing from regional leadership. With 100 sports, 60 jurisdictions, and many other stakeholders, this documentation begins to paint a very big picture with many strokes and colors. The picture’s message is very simple, however; there is ample opportunity and a tremendous need for regional leadership that transcends jurisdictional boundaries and empowers sports and recreation groups, community, and local jurisdictions to embrace a regional parks, sports, and recreation renaissance. This report is intended to serve as the framework for maintaining this information and in addition to this introduction (Section 1), essentially contains three major components:

- **Sports and Recreation Profiling Chapters**
- **Jurisdictional Profiling Chapters**
- **Policy Chapters**

In conjunction to the report, the Commission has initiated two projects that are key to the new regional vision:

- **Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation Community Partners Directory**
- **Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation Facility Mapping and Inventory System**

Section 2: Sports and Recreation Opportunity Profiling Chapters

The report covers approximately 100 sport and recreation opportunities that exist in King County. These chapters cover the history of the sport, in general, how it exists in King County, the

challenges facing the opportunities, and resources for more information regarding the sport and/or its local organizations.

The Commission identified and met with or otherwise reached out to local governing bodies and other representatives of each sport to hear their concerns and ideas about preserving their sports in the region and to provide input and/or to serve as authors for their respective chapters.

Section 3: Jurisdictional Profiling Chapters

The Commission believes a crucial component of a regional vision is its relationship with existing local jurisdictions. To better understand the importance of the local jurisdiction and their potential as partners in a new regional parks, sports, and recreation renaissance, the Commission has chosen to profile each jurisdiction’s demographics statistics, history, innovative parks, sports, and recreation projects, and their challenges, both internal and as a partner in a regional system. Jurisdictions were invited to submit comments on their parks, sports, and recreation system’s overall status, successes, and challenges.

Section 4: Policy Recommendation Chapters

Section 4 is where additional narrative regarding the policy recommendations can be found. There are 12 chapters contained in 4 subsections covering the following topics:

- King County’s Role and Vision for a New Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation System
- Funding and Financing Tools in an Era of Reduced Jurisdictional Resources
- Separate but Equal: The Passive, Mixed Use, and Active Park Continuum
- Parks and Farmlands: Better Partnerships for Increased Public Benefits
- Land Acquisition in an Era of Reduced Jurisdictional Resources
- Parks, Sports, and Recreation Facilities and Neighborhood Relations
- Accessible Parks, Sports, and Recreation: Developing Equal Choices and Full Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities

- Parks, Sports, and Recreation as a Tool for Community-based Prevention and Intervention
- The Regional Aquatics System: The Past, Present, and Future of the Forward Thrust Pools
- Athletic Field Surfaces in the Central Puget Sound Region
- Risk Management and the Recreational Immunity Act
- Transportation in a New Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation System

The recommendations regarding these topics can be found at the beginning of each chapter, as well as, the list included in this introduction. For a complete list of recommendations, including those pertaining sports and recreation opportunities and needs please see Appendix A.

Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation Community Partners Directory

In addition to this report, the Commission has compiled a directory of parks, sports, and recreation community partners which contains parks jurisdictions, schools, non-profits, sports groups, businesses, and many other individuals and organizations that are connected to parks, sports, recreation, and/or youth, in general. There are currently over 4,200 organizations in the directory. The directory will require constant updating and the Commission feels maintaining such a directory and actively communicating with its members is an important component of a new regional vision and the system's connection with the voters.

Regional Parks, Sports, and Recreation Facility Mapping and Inventory System

The Commission also initiated a mapping and inventory project in order to accurately identify and study every parks, sports, and recreation facility in the region. The Commission has identified and mapped over 2000 sites in King County that have some kind of recreation amenities. Completing the identification of these sites' features and mapping them will provide an important public resource, as well as, a crucial tool for the region to use in determining the location and attributes needed for new regional facilities. This process is not complete and will require additional County mapping resources and additional staff time to complete the inventory.